

Service Date: September 29, 1989

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

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IN THE MATTER of The Application)	UTILITY DIVISION
of U S West Communications for)	
Authority to Offer Dual Service as)	DOCKET NO. 89.8.28
a Service Product)	INTERIM ORDER NO. 5424

INTERIM ORDER

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On August 16, 1989, U S West Communications (USWC or Company) filed tariff sheets requesting authority to establish a one-time charge for Dual Service. According to the cover letter accompanying USWC's filing, dated August 16, 1989, simultaneous service with the same telephone number at two different addresses has been provided in the past at no additional charge to the customer with prorated monthly recurring charges. USWC has now identified the costs associated with initiating and disconnecting one side of such temporary simultaneous service at the time that simultaneous service is no longer needed. Therefore, the Company wishes to tariff such temporary simultaneous service under the Product name "Dual Service."

2. According to the proposed tariff, Dual Service would be provided for no longer than 30 days and would only be applicable to

services provided within the same wire center. USWC proposed the nonrecurring Service and Equipment charges of \$10.00 and \$14.95 for residential and business customers, respectively. Other regulations for Dual Service proposed by USWC include a limitation to non-special design or engineering, the availability of adequate and suitable facilities, no change in telephone number, and only single party service.

3. At a regularly scheduled agenda meeting, held September 11, 1989, the Commission granted interim approval of USWC's application for Dual Service, as filed. However, the Commission maintains the concerns it expressed in Order No. 5354d regarding the methods USWC applies in calculating the long-run incremental costs it uses to establish prices for its services (see FOF Nos. 57 and 259 of Order No. 5354d, Docket No. 88.1.2, et. al.) and intends to reexamine the costs to provide Dual Service in the Company's next general rate case.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. USWC furnishes regulated telecommunications service within the State of Montana and is a "Public Utility" under the regulatory jurisdiction of the Montana Public Service Commission pursuant to Section 69-3-101, MCA. The Commission has authority to supervise, regulate, and control public utilities. Section 69-3-102, MCA.

2. The Commission has provided adequate public notice and an opportunity to be heard herein, pursuant to the Montana Administrative Procedure Act and Title 69 of the Montana Code Annotated.

3. Section 69-3-304, MCA, provides in part, "The Commission may, in its discretion, temporarily approve increases or decreases pending a hearing and final decision." The Commission considers it reasonable to grant interim approval of the instant application.

4. If the final Commission decision is to disapprove or decrease the rates approved herein, the Commission may order a rebate to all consumers for the amount collected (plus interest) retroactive to the date of this temporary approval.

ORDER

1. USWC is hereby GRANTED interim approval of the Dual Service tariffs as filed.

2. This matter shall be incorporated into USWC's next general rate case before the Commission.

DONE AND DATED this 25th day of September, 1989, by a 5-0 vote.

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CLYDE JARVIS, Chairman

HOWARD L. ELLIS, Commissioner

WALLACE W. "WALLY" MERCER, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

JOHN B. DRISCOLL, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Ann Purcell
Acting Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request that the Commission reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38.2.4806, ARM.